Subsidy in Power Sector for Agricultural and Domestic use

†530. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :

DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount of subsidy given in the power sector for agricultural and domestic use in the country is continuously increasing for the past few years;

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy in 1990-1991 and also for 1999-2000; and

(c) the estimate of financial losses suffered per unit on average in each of the above sectors?

The MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) As per the annual statement of accounts of various State Electricity Boards in the country, the total amount of RE subsidy provided in the accounts has been increasing between the period 1990-91 and 1997-98. The total amount of RE subsidy and grants as provided in the annual statement of accounts for State Electricity Boards for the year 1990-91 is Rs. 2735.37 crore and for the year 1997-98 is Rs. 10026.10 crores respectively. The corresponding figure for the year 1999-2000 is yet to be received.

(c)According to the asessment of the Central Electricity Authority, the average loss in agriculture and domestic sectors works out to 204.50 paise/ kwh and 94.03 paise/kwh respectively.

Local Languages in Normal Government Correspondence

*531. DR. RAJA RAMANNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government would take steps to stop the deterioration of the use of local languages in normal Government correspondence and increased enrolment of students for the study of English;

(b) if not, whether the increased use of English among people normally using local languages is making local languages nearly obsolete; and

(c) can this be reduced by introducing the use of computer multiple translation and other modern devices ?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) It is not true that the local languages are becoming obsolete. Use of computers and all available modern facilities can, and in fact are being use, to promote the local languages, wherever possible. In the matter of language Government of India is fully alive to its responsibilities as laid down in the Constitution and has been taking all necessary action.

Re-establishment of Border Out Posts

*532.. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal for re-establishment of BOPs (Border Out Posts) in the border areas of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur States in North Cachar hills district to check the anti-national elements/extremists/ infiltrators and social crimes etc.;

(b) if so, the details of the steps initiated by Government;

(c) if not, the reasons for not taking appropriate steps in this regard; and

(d) by when the said proposal is likely to be implemented?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (b) The Army has no proposal at present to re-establish border out posts in the border areas of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur States in North Cachar Hills district. The present operational deployment of security forces is considered adequate.

Undertrials in Delhi Jails

*533.. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have undertaken any study about the undertrial prisoners remaining in jail in the Union Territory of Delhi for a period of more than the maximum punishment that can be awarded for the offences they have been charged with;

(b) if so, the number of such cases; and

(c) the action Government intend to take in this matter?